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LETTER DATED 15 AUGUST 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that Armenian armed detachments have begun another massed offensive against the Fizuli and Djebrail districts of Azerbaijan, which are situated outside the Nagorny Karabakh region of the Azerbaijani Republic. Through large-scale attacks, the Armenian army seized a total of ten villages. There are numerous casualties among the peaceful population.

As a result of these barbaric actions, thousands of people were forced to abandon their homes, adding to the already sizeable army of refugees and displaced persons, whose numbers have begun to approach one million.

On 14 August, the Armenian aggressors seized six more populated areas in the Agdam district of Azerbaijan. Eyewitness accounts again speak of atrocities committed by Armenian forces against the unarmed local population.

Thus, not only are Armenian troops not withdrawing from previously occupied Azerbaijani territory, but overt Armenian expansion deep into Azerbaijan is also continuing.

This latest spiral in the military escalation once again demonstrates that the Armenian side is openly ignoring Security Council resolutions 822 (1993) and 853 (1993) and rejecting a peaceful settlement of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, relying exclusively on force to resolve the conflict.

The Azerbaijani Republic strongly condemns the aggressive policy of the neighbouring Republic and draws the attention of the world community to the inadmissibility of the use of force in resolving a regional conflict and urgently demands that the United Nations, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the countries of the international community make use of their authority and all available possibilities to restrain the aggressor and prevent the further destruction of the peaceful population, and the towns and villages of Azerbaijan.

As distinct from the Armenian army's occupation of the Nagorny Karabakh region of the Azerbaijani Republic, and the Lachin, Kelbajar and Agdam districts

of Azerbaijan, the Security Council must take preventive measures to avert the further seizure of Azerbaijani territory by Armenian armed detachments.

In this connection, I should like to make a request to you concerning the possibility of considering the adoption of such measures at a meeting of the Security Council and also request to meet with you on Monday, 16 August, at any convenient time.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan A. HASSANOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative